

MD-CW2301

September 4, 2001

Corn Harvest Begins

With the exception of a few scattered thunderstorms, last week was relatively dry. Maryland farmers spent an average of **5.7 days on field work** such as harvesting corn for grain and silage. Corn harvesting began last week with 4 percent of the **corn** crop **harvested for grain**, 2 percent behind last year, and 1 percent behind the five year average. Eighteen percent is **harvested for silage**, 4 percent behind last year and 5 percent behind the average. Corn is in mostly good condition with 15 percent rated in excellent condition, 54 percent good, 20 percent fair, 8 percent poor, and 3 percent very poor.

Fruit harvest continues with 22 percent of the **apples** harvested, matching last year and 2 percent ahead of the five year average. Apples are rated 74 percent in good condition, 22 percent fair, 2 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor. The **peach** harvest is nearly complete with 90 percent harvested, 3 percent ahead of last year and 2 percent behind the average.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture are mostly at adequate levels. **Topsoil moisture** is rated 8 percent surplus, 73 percent adequate, 16 percent short, and 3 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** is now 2 percent surplus, 75 percent adequate, 15 percent short, and 8 percent very short.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2, 2001 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1996-2000
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	22	20	22	20
Cantaloupes	86	78	91	93
Corn, for grain	4	2	6	5
Corn, for silage	18	12	22	23
Cucumbers	79	76	86	87
Peaches	90	86	87	92
Snap Beans	80	78	79	83
Sweet Corn	87	74	90	89
Tobacco	62	46	57	61
Tomatoes	75	65	82	86
Watermelons	78	57	83	88
Crop Progress:				
Corn, dough	90	85	84	82
Corn, dent	64	50	52	56
Corn, mature	23	22	31	22
Sorghum, turning color	25	20	33	25
Soybeans, bloomed	95	90	95	93
Soybeans, setting pods	85	70	84	85
Soybeans, turning color	4	2	15	8
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 3 rd cutting	73	60	49	56
Other hay, 4 th cutting	27	25	18	10
Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting	94	92	84	84
Alfalfa, 4 th cutting	45	40	37	29

CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2, 2001 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	3	8	20	54	15
Soybeans	2	5	19	55	19
Sorghum	0	0	0	100	0
Tobacco	0	0	5	74	21
Pasture	2	12	32	39	15

Carrie Louey
Mathematical Statistician

Ray Garibay
State Statistician

Precipitation and Departures From Normal, Through August 31, 2001				
	August 2001		Since April 1, 2001	
County	Precipitation	Departure From Normal	Accumulated Precipitation	Accumulated Departure
Maryland				
Allegany	3.7	0.5	18.5	1.4
Anne Arundel	5.2	1.3	21.5	2.8
Baltimore	3.4	-0.6	14.8	-5.1
Calvert	5.2	1.4	21.5	2.3
Caroline	7.7	3.4	27.2	8.0
Carroll	3.6	0.2	13.7	-5.0
Cecil	3.8	-0.4	16.2	-3.9
Charles	4.2	0.2	20.0	1.3
Dorchester	6.7	2.1	25.9	6.4
Frederick	2.7	-0.6	13.8	-4.7
Garrett	3.0	-0.8	21.4	0.8
Harford	2.3	-2.0	14.6	-6.3
Howard	3.9	0.2	15.6	-3.3
Kent	4.2	0.2	18.4	-0.7
Montgomery	3.7	0.0	20.3	1.9
Prince George's	5.6	1.5	21.8	2.6
Queen Anne's	6.3	2.3	22.4	3.4
Somerset	5.0	0.4	19.0	1.0
St. Mary's	5.9	1.8	23.7	4.1
Talbot	6.1	1.9	23.9	4.5
Washington	2.0	-1.3	12.9	-5.1
Wicomico	6.1	1.0	21.7	2.1
Worcester	4.0	-1.2	16.9	-2.5
Delaware				
New Castle	4.0	0.4	19.8	0.8
Kent	6.0	1.8	24.0	2.1
Sussex	9.8	4.8	26.3	7.0

Source: National Weather Service